

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 02677 182116Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15
SP-02 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-01
PM-05 /065 W

-----022098 182124Z /46

O 182005Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4597
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2677

LONDON FOR ARA DAS BUSHNELL

PANAMA FOR ROBERT PASTOR, NSC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, DR, VE
SUBJECT: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SITUATION

REF CARACAS 4541

1. VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR CARLOS IRAZABAL MET WITH AMBASSADOR YOST
AS SCHEDULED AT 10:00 A.M. HE SAID PRESIDENT PEREZ HAD CALLED
HIM EARLY THIS MORNING TO EXPRESS CONTINUED CONCERN AND TO RAISE
QUESTION OF JOINT APPROACH DESCRIBED REFTEL.

2. AMBASSADOR YOST TOLD HIM WE HAD MADE CLEAR AT ALL LEVELS
OF THE GODR THE US CONCERN - SHARED BY MEMBERS OF THE OAS
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PAGE 02 SANTO 02677 182116Z

OBSERVER GROUP - WITH REGARD TO ANY POSSIBLE DISTORTION OF THE
RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS. WE WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE THIS KNOWN
AND FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS VERY CLOSELY. IN THE MEANTIME, WE MUST
ASSUME THAT PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S ASSURANCES TO PRESIDENT CARTER
AND SUBSEQUENTLY TO THE OAS GROUP, WITH REGARD TO ELECTION PROCESS,
WOULD BE MET. CURRENTLY, WE UNDERSTOOD THAT A RESPONSE WAS UNDER
PREPARATION BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PRESIDENT PEREZ' APPROACH TO

EMBASSY CARACAS.

3. COMMENT. STATE 126301 JUST RECEIVED. WHILE I HAVE NO OBJECTION TO A JOINT APPROACH WITH THE VENEZUELAN AND PANAMANIAN AMBASSADORS, I HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT ITS EFFECTIVENESS BEYOND WHATWE ARE DOING SEPARATELY. IT IS LIKELY TO CAUSE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE REACTION FROM BALAGUER, WHO IS NOT GOING TO BE MOVED AT THIS POINT BY AMBASSADORIAL REITERATION OF CONCERNS ALREADY EXPRESSED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS. MOREOVER, IF EFFECTIVE, IT COULD DIMINISH THE SENSITIVITY THAT CONTINUES TO EXIST ON THE PART OF THE PRESIDENT AND TO SOME DEGREE OF THE MILITARY WITH REGARD TO FOREIGN REACTIONS TO DEVELOPMENTS HERE. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE CONTINUE TO MAKE OUR VIEWPOINTS FELT AND THE VENEZUELAN SHOULD CERTAINLY BE ENCOURAGED TO FOLLOW UP PROMPTLY ON THEIR OWN EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN AT VARIOUS LEVELS. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THEY CONTINUE TO HAVE A RESPECTABLE POTENTIAL FOR PRESSURE WITH THEIR IMPORTANT ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THE DR. IT IS ALSO MOST IMPORTANT THAT OAS COMMISSION REMAINS ON THE SCENE HERE DURING CURRENT TENSE PERIOD OF VOTE COUNTING.

YOST

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NNN

Message Attributes

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